

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

The specification as amended below with replacement paragraphs shows added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~striketrough~~.

Please REPLACE the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 13, with the following paragraph:

Moreover, construction of a more flexible and more economical transport network is called for as a photonic network system exceeding the range of trunk long-distance and large-capacity systems, and development of optical node technology for constructing photonic networks is under way. Specifically, development of an optical add-drop multiplexer (OADM) having a function of ~~dropping~~ dropping a signal of an arbitrary wavelength or adding a signal of an arbitrary wavelength from/to a WDM ring transmission line, and an optical cross connect (OXC) apparatus having a function of switching the optical lines mutually or a function as a wavelength switch for routing the light in units of wavelength, is now under way.